

CHAPTER 1 . 1 . 1 .

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Animal handler

A person with a knowledge of the behaviour and needs of animals which, with appropriate experience and a professional and positive response to an animal's needs, results in effective management and good welfare. Their competence should be demonstrated through independent assessment and certification.

Container

A non-self-propelled receptacle or other rigid structure for holding animals during a *journey* by one or several means of transport.

Death

Irreversible loss of brain activity demonstrable by the loss of brain stem reflexes.

Journey

An animal transport journey commences when the first animal is loaded onto a *vehicle/vessel* or into a *container* and ends when the last animal is unloaded, and includes any stationary resting / holding periods of less than 48 hours. The same animals do not commence a new journey until after a period of over 48 hours for rest and recuperation, with adequate feed and water.

Killing

Any procedure which causes the death of an animal.

Lairage

Pens, yards and other holding areas used for accommodating animals in order to give them necessary attention (including water, feed, rest) before they are moved on or used for specific purposes including slaughter.

Loading/Unloading

Loading: the procedure of moving animals onto a *vehicle/vessel* or into a *container* for transport purposes; **unloading:** the procedure of moving animals off a *vehicle/vessel* or out of a *container*.

Post-journey period

The period between *unloading* and either recovery from the effects of the *journey* or slaughter (if this occurs before recovery).

Pre-journey period

The period during which animals are identified, and often assembled for the purpose of loading them.

Resting point

A place where the *journey* is interrupted to rest, feed or water the animals; the animals may remain in the *vehicle/vessel* or *container*, or be unloaded.

Restraint

The application to an animal of any procedure designed to restrict its movements.

Slaughter

Any procedure which causes the death of an animal by bleeding.

Space allowance

The measure of the floor area and height on a *vehicle/vessel or container* allocated per individual or body weight of animals transported.

Stocking density

The number or body weight of animals per unit area on a *vehicle/vessel or container*.

Stunning

Any mechanical, electrical, chemical or other procedure which causes immediate loss of consciousness; when used before slaughter, the loss of consciousness lasts until death from the slaughter process; in the absence of slaughter, the procedure would allow the animal to recover consciousness.

Transport

The procedures associated with the carrying of animals for commercial purposes from one location to another by land (road and rail), sea or air.

Transporter

The person licensed by the *Competent Authority* to transport animals.

Travel

The movement of a *vehicle/vessel or container* carrying animals from one location to another.

Vehicle/vessel

Any means of conveyance including train, truck, aircraft or ship that is used for carrying animal(s).

Slaughterhouse/abattoir

Premises, including facilities for moving or lairaging animals, used for the slaughter of *animals* for human consumption or animal feeding, and approved by the *Veterinary Services* or other *Competent Authority*.

Quarantine station

A facility under the control of the *Veterinary Authority* where a group of animals is maintained in isolation with no direct or indirect contact with other animals, to prevent the transmission of specified disease(s), in order to while the animals are undergoing observation for a specified length of time and, if appropriate, testing and treatment.
